

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1963 without my signature because the bill is unnecessary.

I support the use of culturally competent models of service delivery that can improve health outcomes by reducing cultural and linguistic barriers to accessing the health care system. In particular, Promotores de Salud represent an effective means of serving California's increasingly diverse population. Indeed, several state-supported public health programs already use Promotores de Salud.

The Department of Health Services (DHS) can further promote this model of service through administrative action. Moreover, we should not single out in statute a specific model of outreach for a specific community, when we live in the most racially and ethnically diverse state in the nation.

Finally, this bill also has an indeterminate fiscal impact associated with requiring DHS to revise its standards related to funding for local programs.

For these reasons I am unable to sign this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger